

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A retractable device for retaining a writing instrument,

2 comprising:

a retractor comprising a retractor body that houses a cable, the cable
4 having a first end positioned within the retractor body and a second end positioned
outside the retractor body, the cable having a protuberance coupled to the second end,
6 and wherein the cable is selectively extendable from the retractor body and retractable
into the retractor body; and

8 an adapter coupled to the protuberance, the adapter comprising a main
body having a first portion and a second portion, wherein the first portion and the
10 second portion are separated by a partition; the first portion defining a first bore having
a substantially constant diameter, and the second portion defining a second bore having
12 a tapered inner bore.

2. (currently amended) The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the adaptor
2 [connector] is coupled to the protuberance by an adhesive.

3. (currently amended) The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the adaptor
2 [connector] is coupled to the protuberance by a friction fit.

4. (original) The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the protuberance
2 includes one or more annular ridges extending from an outer surface of the
protuberance.

5. (original) The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the protuberance is
2 provided with threads that mate with walls of the first bore.

6. (original) The protuberance of claim 1 wherein the protuberance is sized to
2 engage the walls of the first bore.

7. (original) The retractable device of claim 6 wherein the first bore is
2 provided with at least one ridge projecting away from the walls of the first bore.

8. (original) The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the second bore is
2 provided with at least one ridge projecting away from the walls of the second bore.

9. (original) The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the tapered inner bore
2 of the second portion of the adapter is funnel-shaped.

10. (original) The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the tapered inner bore
2 of the second portion of the adapter is bottleneck-shaped.

11. (original) The retractable device of claim 1 further comprising an elongated
2 rod that is coupled to the retractor body, the elongate rod sized to engage a bore or a
press-in clip bracket.

12. (original) A retractable device for retaining a writing instrument,
2 comprising:

a retractor comprising a retractor body that houses a cable that is
4 selectively extendable from and retractable into the retractor body, and a protuberance
provided at a first end of the cable; and

6 an adapter comprising a main body having a first portion and a second
portion, wherein the first portion and the second portion are separated by an inner wall;
8 the first portion defining a first bore having a substantially constant diameter wherein
the first bore engages the protuberance, and the second portion defining a second bore
10 having a funnel-shaped inner bore that is capable of engaging an outer wall of the
writing instrument.

13. (original) The retractable device of claim 12 further comprising a fastening
2 means coupled to the retractor.

14. (original) The retractable device of claim 13 wherein the fastening means is
2 an elongated rod sized to engage a bore or a press-in clip bracket.

15. (currently amended) The retractable device of claim 12 wherein [wherein] the
2 protuberance includes one or more annular ridges extending from an outer surface of
the protuberance.

16. (original) The retractable device of claim 12 wherein the protuberance is
2 provided with threads that mate with corresponding threads on walls of the first bore.

17. (currently amended) A retractable device for retaining a writing instrument,
2 comprising:

a retractor comprising a retractor body coupled to a fastening means and
4 the retractor body housing a cable, the cable having a first end positioned within the
retractor body and a second end positioned outside the retractor body, the cable having
6 a protuberance having annular ridges extending from an outer surface of the
protuberance, wherein the protuberance is coupled to the second end, and wherein the
8 cable is selectively extendable from the retractor body and retractable into the retractor
body; and

10 a flexible adapter comprising a main body having a first portion and a
second portion, wherein the first portion and the second portion are separated by an
12 inner wall; the first portion defining a first bore having a substantially constant diameter

wherein the first bore engages the protuberance by a friction fit, and the second portion
14 defining a second bore having a funnel-shaped inner bore that is capable of engaging
and retaining the writing instrument.

18. (original) The retractable device of claim 17 wherein the fastening means is
2 a belt clip or a bulldog clip.

19. (original) The retractable device of claim 17 wherein the fastening means is
2 an elongated rod sized to engage a bore or a press-in clip bracket.